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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/838,170	04/20/2001	Shigemi Kurashima	1614,1162	9034
21171	7590	04/28/2008	EXAMINER	
STAAS & HALSEY LLP			NGUYEN, KIMNHUNG T	
SUITE 700				
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
WASHINGTON, DC 20005			2629	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			04/28/2008	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 09/838,170	<b>Applicant(s)</b> KURASHIMA ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b> KIMNHUNG NGUYEN	<b>Art Unit</b> 2629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE \_\_\_\_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(o).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 3/25/08.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.      2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 12-15 and 24-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 12-15 and 24-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: \_\_\_\_

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This application has been examined. The claims 12-15, and 24-27 are pending. The examination results are as following.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless —

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 12-15 and 24-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tachita et al. (US 4,696,058).

As to claim 12, Tachita et al. disclose in fig.1, an input system, comprising: an information generation part generating input information (see input signals from the two antennas 13,14, see fig. 1, see col. 4, lines 16-18) based on a given input operation; a transmission part (11) generating a signal by having a carrier frequency modulated with the input information (see col. 2,lines 52-62), and transmitting the generated signal; a plurality of wave direction parts (see transmitter 11 gives a radio-wave signal to a transmitting antenna 12 provided close to said transmission part so as to provide the signal transmitted from said transmission part with directivity (see col. 2, lines 52-62); and a reception part (16) receiving the transmitted signal through each of the wave direction parts and demodulating the received signals into the same input information (see transmitted radio-waves are simultaneously received by two antenna 13,14 simultaneously (see col. 2, lines 55-57), wherein the signal transmitted at a timing from the transmission part is provided alternately to the wave direction parts so that the

same input information is transmitted alternately through the wave direction parts (see col. 2, lines 52-62).

As to claim 13, Tachita et al. disclose the input system, further comprising: a switching part (15) switchable between said wave direction parts based on a control signal (17) supplied from said information generation part so that each of the signals transmitted from the transmission part(11) is supplied to a corresponding one of the wave direction parts.

As to claim 14, Tachita et al. disclose further the input system as claimed in claim 12, wherein said transmission part (11) comprises a plurality of transmission circuits for transmitting the signal (see col. 3, lines 36-39, and col. 4, lines 52-62).

As to claim 15, Tachita et al. disclose further, wherein said wave direction parts are antennas (see abstract).

As to claim 24 is rejected as the same as claim 12.

As to claim 25 is rejected as the same as claim 13.

As to claim 26 is rejected as the same as claim 14.

As to claim 27 is rejected as the same as claim 15.

***Response To Arguments***

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 12-15 and 24-27 filed on 3/25/08 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

*Correspondence*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KIMNHUNG NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)272-7698. The examiner can normally be reached on MON-FRI, FROM 8:30 AM-5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Hjerpe can be reached on (571) 272-7691. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kimnhung Nguyen/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2629  
April 22, 2008

/Richard Hjerpe/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2629